

**Little Traverse Bay Bands of Odawa Indians
Natural Resource Commission
3rd Quarterly Report
July – August – September
2017**



Little Traverse Bay Bands of Odawa Indians
Natural Resource Commission

John Keshick III, Chairman
Renee Dillard, Vice-Chairman
Frederick Holdorph, Treasurer
2 Vacant, Commissioners

3rd Quarterly Report 2017

The Natural Resource Commission is continuing to work on the Great Lakes Consent Decree for 2020 to define specific issues in areas of the Decree that were not completely specified or clarified at the time of signing the Decree in 2000. Many of these issues have arisen from implementation of the 2000 Consent Decree and the changes of Whitefish or lack of Whitefish and Lake Trout being abundant.

The importance of the upcoming Great Lakes Consent Decree is a 20-year Decree and the current Decree will expire in 2020. There are many important changes that have had a great effect on LTBB Commercial Fishermen in the last 17 years that will need to be addressed in the upcoming 2020 Decree.

The Natural Resource Commission and the Natural Resource Department continue to lead in the enforcement, conservation and management of tribal natural resources by successfully and responsibly preserving the LTBB's sovereign right to hunt and fish, both on the inland lands and waters as well as commercial and subsistence fishing on the 1836 Great Lakes. Utilize our natural resources in order to promote, honor and respect our traditional, spiritual and physical relationship with the land and waters for the future benefit of our Tribe.

LTBB Natural Resource Commission Meetings Attended:

- July 12, 2017 Annual Hunting and Fishing Meeting, Escanaba, MI
- July 25, 2017 Regular Scheduled Meeting
- July 27, 2017 CORA Meeting, Gaylord, MI
- August 8, 2017 Regular Scheduled Meeting
- August 22, 2017 Regular Scheduled Meeting
- August 24, 2017 Executive Council CORA Meeting, Traverse City, MI
- September 13, 2017 Regular Scheduled Meeting
- September 21, 2017 CORA Meeting, Gaylord, MI
- September 27, 2017 Regular Scheduled Meeting

The Natural Resource Department is comprised of 4 divisions: Conservation Law Enforcement; Great Lakes Fisheries; Inland Fisheries and Inland Wildlife. The Natural Resource Commission and the Natural Resource Department assist in the development of Policies that have become necessary for the implementation of the Inland Consent Decree. Some of those policies developed are for species that LTBB has a season for such as the Bear Policy and Elk Policy. The Natural Resource Protection Statute is developed to assist the LTBB Conservation Officers in the field and to allow for Conservation Officers to have the authority to check persons in the field to ensure that they are abiding by the rules and regulations. The Natural Resource Protection Statute will allow for Conservation Officers to check ID's and Licenses of

persons encountered in the field to determine tribal jurisdiction vs. State hunters and fishers.

Natural Resource Commission Vacancies

The Natural Resource Commission is comprised of 5 Commissioners with staggered 4-year terms. This year there were 3 commissioner terms that were expiring, two of those commissioners submitted their letters of interest for re-appointment, one of the commissioners whose term was expiring had not attended a meeting since April 2017 and has not submitted a letter of resignation. The Chairman for the Natural Resource Commission turned in a letter of resignation on August 10, 2017, he was no longer interested in being on the commission, his term will not be up until September 2019. The 3 remaining commissioners nominated John Keshick III for Chairman until there is a full commission on board to hold elections. In total there are 4 commission positions, 2 re-appointments and 1 vacant term, and 1 partial term to be filled.

LTBB Rules and Regulations

- The LTBB Natural Resource Commission has established a time line for updating the Rules and Regulations for both Reservation and Ceded Territory for 2018.
 - The Natural Resource Commission reviews comments from surveys and takes into consideration the comments to make the appropriate changes to the Rules and Regulations accordingly.
 - The LTBB Natural Resource Department Programs also review the Rules and Regulations and make suggestions on any updates that will apply to the 2018 Rules and Regulations.
 - The Natural Resource Commission will make changes and submit the Draft Rules and Regulations for 2018 to the Executive Office and sent to Tribal Council for final approval.

The LTBB Natural Resource Commission has completed updating the 2018 Rules and Regulations for LTBB Reservation and the Ceded Territory.

The Natural Resource Commission would like to thank Little Traverse Bay Bands of Odawa Indians Tribal Council for their appointments to the Natural Resource Commission.

